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REMARKS

The *Interview* of June 5, 2007 is gratefully acknowledged. The *Examiner's Summary* accurately reflects the substance of the interview and the reasons advanced for allowance are more fully set forth in Applicant's response of April 4, 2007 and herein.

Terminal Disclaimers were submitted on June 8, 2007, with respect to co-pending Application Serial No. 11/104,014; co-pending Application Serial No. 11/108,375; and co-pending Application Serial No. 11/108,458. Thus, the double-patenting rejections in the outstanding Official Action are believed resolved.

Recitation has been added to independent Claims 1 and 143 to the effect that the web has an absorbency of at least about 4.5 g/g. Support for these amendments is found in Table 5, page 65, of the application as filed, Examples of the first, second, fourth and sixth lines of the table which show absorbency values ranging from 4.53 g/g to 4.85 g/g. Thus, the terminology "absorbent sheet" is accordingly clarified.

Claims 1 and 143 also have been amended to specify CD stretch of at least about 5%. Support is found in original Claim 6.

Independent Claims 1, 25, 29, 123, 132 and 143 have been amended to recite a creping velocity delta of at least 100 feet per minute. Support for these amendments is found in the specification as filed, page 22, lines 18-25:

> Without intending to be bound by theory, it is believed the inventive redistribution of fiber is achieved by an appropriate selection of consistency, fabric or belt pattern, nip parameters, and velocity delta, the difference in speed between the transfer surface and creping belt. Velocity deltas of at least 100 fpm, 200 fpm, 500 fpm, 1000 fpm, 1500 fpm or even in excess of 2000 fpm may be needed under some conditions to achieve the desired redistribution of fiber and combination of properties as will become apparent from the discussion which follows.

Thus, conditions for re-distributing the fiber by way of fabric creping are further clarified in Claims 1, 25, 29, 123, 132 and 143 (as well as in previously presented Claim 161) to specify a 100 feet per minute speed differential. It is noted that the web undergoes an energy change proportional to the **square** of the **absolute difference** in speed.

In view of the foregoing amendments, the enclosed *Terminal Disclaimers* and the previously submitted evidence of superior and unexpected results, this application is believed in condition for allowance. It is particularly noteworthy that the invention of this application is contrary to conventional wisdom in the art. Paragraph 3 of the April, 2007 *Declaration of Steven L. Edwards Under 37 CFR §1.132* states as follows:

> 3. The '862 Invention is generally directed to a wet-press process for making absorbent sheet including compactively dewatering, that is, wet-pressing a nascent web and subsequently belt or fabric-creping a wet web from a transfer surface such that the wet web is ***re-distributed*** on the creping belt, for example, into interconnected high local basis weight regions and low local basis weight regions. What is very unique about the '862 Invention is that fiber is re-distributed (after forming the web) on the fabric creping surface such that fiber changes its position and orientation in the web. This post-formation rearrangement or redistribution of the fiber in the web is very different from conventional practice in the papermaking industry. Consider, for example, the attached pages from the Handbook of Pulp and Paper Technology, Britt, K.W., 2nd ed. Ch. 6, pp. 401-418 (Exhibit 1); especially page 401, second full paragraph which states that web formation determines fiber position and direction:
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> ***As the position and direction of the fibers in the sheet structure is almost entirely determined by the forming process***, it follows that many of the most important quality characteristics of the paper are established here. Properties mainly determined by the forming section are: formation, strength isotropy, fines distribution throughout the sheet, wire mark, and to a large extent, surface uniformity.
>
> Changes in the web structure after formation are conventionally avoided because such changes produce defects such as strength defects, surface defects "orange peel" and so forth. It is surprising that the fiber in an already formed web can be re-distributed to form absorbent sheet with desirable properties such as increased bulk, reduced, yet uniform tensiles, increased CD stretch and so forth as is seen in United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/679,862. I will comment on the invention in more detail below after commenting briefly on *Klowak '054* and in some detail as to *Grinnell et al.* '584 which relates to paperboard manufacture.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the enclosed Terminal Disclaimers and the previously submitted *Declaration* of *Steven L. Edwards Under 37 CFR §1.132*, this application is believed in condition for allowance. If there are any other matters requiring attention, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned Counsel at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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